



Celebrity **NEWS**

THE MAGAZINE OF CELEBRITIES

Programmes by

EBE STIGNANI *MEZZO-SOPRANO*

G-Major Series — Saturday, October Twenty-second

VIENNA CHOIR BOYS

Musical Director: HARALD HEDDING

Variety Series — Monday, October Twenty-fourth
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In this Issue

Programmes by

Ebe Stignani

MEZZO-SOPRANO

Vienna Choir Boys

HARALD HEDDING, Director



EBE STIGNANI, Mezzo-Soprano
G-Major Series — AUDITORIUM
Saturday, October 22nd, 1949



VIENNA CHOIR BOYS — Harald Hedding, Director
Variety Series

AUDITORIUM — Monday, October 24th, 1949

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EBE STIGNANI

EBE STIGNANI was born in Naples and studied at the Naples Conservatory, receiving degrees in pianoforte, voice and choral singing. She made her debut at the San Carlo Opera House of Naples in "Aida". The following season she made her debut at La Scala in Milan and has made that opera house her headquarters ever since. Madame Stignani has sung in all the principal opera houses in Europe and appeared for the first time on this continent in 1939 when she sang in San Francisco at the opera house there. Her debut in America was an enormous success and she was immediately re-engaged for the next season, but was unable to leave Italy after the outbreak of war.

In the early fall of 1948 Ebe Stignani returned to this continent to score a phenomenal success with the San Francisco Opera, duplicating her previous triumph there, and then on the memorable night of Dec. 13, 1948, she made her New York debut at Carnegie Hall, receiving ovation after ovation. Said the New York World Telegram: "One of the world's greatest living singers made her New York debut in Carnegie Hall last evening," and the New York Times: "Stignani proved that she belonged to the great line of singers."

Madame Stignani sang in Winnipeg last year for the Women's Musical Club, but this will be her first recital before the Celebrity Concert audience.

VIENNA CHOIR BOYS

THE Vienna Choir Boys, established in 1498 by imperial decree, is one of the oldest and most appealing musical organizations in the world. When Emperor Maximilian I ordered the organization of a boys' choir to participate in the performance of religious music in the Court Chapel in Vienna, a dozen boys were engaged and the choirmaster, in addition to directing their musical activities, was granted funds for their board and education.

With the fall of the Hapsburg monarchy at the end of World War I, the Choir was supported by private funds and by the income derived from its tours which began in 1926. In addition to performing sacred music, the Choir turned to folk songs and costumed operettas.

Today the standards of the Choir are firmly upheld by the finest supervision in Vienna. Before enrollment is possible the prospective choir boys must pass rigid examinations of their scholastic ability and musical talents.

In 1932 the Choir first appeared in America and toured this continent for six seasons, performing their unique programs to packed houses. The Celebrity Concert audience in Winnipeg heard them in 1935 but not again until last year, were they able to return. The return of the Vienna Boys' Choir again this season was demanded by Celebrity audience in their annual ballot.

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EBE STIGNANI

MEZZO-SOPRANO

Paul Ulanowsky at the piano

♦ ♦ ♦

GOD SAVE THE KING

I

OH! CESSATE DI PIAGARMI.....**Scarlatti**

Oh! cease thy torments, faithless one. Thou art ice and marble, cold and deaf to my pleas.

SE FLORINDO E FEDELE.....**Scarlatti**

From wiles I can defend my heart—but not from faithful love.

DANZA! DANZA! FANCIULLA GENTILE...**Durante**

The singer addresses a maiden who is bidden to dance to the lilt of the song. The murmuring waters and the sighing breezes join in the invitation. The eager feet respond and tirelessly keep time to the rhythm as the song goes on and on.

II

VIENI AL MIO SENO, from "Cecchina".....**Piccinni**

Come to my bosom which is full of sorrow, to console me with sweet repose.

CHIARE ONDE, from the opera, "Ercole".....Vivaldi

The translation of the title is 'clear water'.

DA DUE VENTI, from the opera, "Ercole".....Vivaldi

These songs are arranged and edited by Alfredo Casella as the original manuscript has been lost and only four of the arias are known today. The story of the opera is based on a poem of Bussani. The title in translation is 'blown by two winds'.

III

CHE FARO SENZA EURIDICE, from "Orfeo".....Gluck

Orpheus, grieving over the death of his beloved wife, Euridice, decides to search for her among the spirits of the dead. Guided by the Goddess of Love, he comes to the realm of Death and so charms the guards by his beautiful playing that he is permitted to take Euridice, providing he does not look at her, but he cannot refrain from looking at her and loses her forever.

INTERMISSION

IV

AIR DE LIA, from "L'Enfant Prodigue".....Debussy

Lia mourns the loss of her child, Azael. It is harvest time and she watches the others who are happy in their work and their children. They do not notice the lone one. "Azael, why didst thou leave thy loving mother," she cries.

V

THREE SONGS.....Alfano

Messagio: Towards Mitilene a stranger sails to gather the flowers of the Graces of Sappho.—Go tell him that

(Continued on page 10)

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VIENNA CHOIR BOYS

Musical Director: HARALD HEDDING

GOD SAVE THE KING

I

UNA HORA	Vittoria 1540-1611
PUERI CONCINITE	Gallus 1550-1591
O SACRUM CONVIVIVM	Croce 1559-1609
ASCENDIT DEUS	Gallus 1550-1591
LASCIA CHIO PIANGA	Handel 1685-1759

Alto solo with piano accompaniment

SHORT INTERMISSION

II

TALES FROM OLD VIENNA

Operetta by Johann Strauss

CHARACTERS:

Anton Hironymus Kipfl, master baker
 Mitzi, his daughter
 Franz, private soldier
 Herr von Stieglitz, a dandy
 Xandl, cobbler's apprentice
 Kalafati, a Chinese
 A Policeman
 Girls, artisans, soldiers and other people.

The action takes place in Vienna in 1878, shortly after the Austrian-Hungarian Army has concluded the occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Kalafati, the popular Chinese figure of the oldest merry-go-round in the famous Prater, has again returned to Vienna, like so many other people after years spent in exile. (This is the poet's fiction, of course, since the Kalafati carrousel has been destroyed.) He tells a story of love's happiness and sorrows, a story that happens every day not only in old Vienna but everywhere.

Mitzi, the pretty daughter of Mr. Kipfl, the master baker, is in love with Franz, who has gone with the Austrian-Hungarian Army to Bosnia. Her father wants her to marry Herr von Stieglitz, who pretends to be a very wealthy property-owner. Xandl, the cob-

bler's apprentice, succeeds in preventing this marriage by setting up a clever intrigue with the help of Mitzi.

He unmasks Herr von Stieglitz and proves him to be a swindler and a crook. He also persuades Mr. Kipfl to give his daughter, Mitzi, in marriage to Franz.

The play concludes as Kalafati brings his famous merry-go-round on the stage and everybody joins in the happiness of the young couple.

INTERMISSION

III

PASTORALE Schubert

The shepherdess is happy on the meadow. She walks with her little lamb beside her, singing freely. If innocent love pleases her shepherd, the lovely shepherdess will always be happy.

A BEAUTIFUL BRUNETTE Folk Song

I have on my mind a beautiful brunette. I wish I could be with her now since I have no rest by night or by day. Her beauty haunts me. I have pledged my love to her and to no one else.

THE MOON HAS RISEN Folk Song

The moon has risen, stars glitter bright and clear in the skies. The forest stands black and silent and the wondrous white mist rises from the meadows. How silent the world—as the chamber where we sleep and forget the woes of the day.

THE SWALLOW Humperdinck

The swallow is a chatterbox. She chit-chats and gossips with her neighbor the whole day through. She chats about her many eggs, about her children and if no one listens, she chats to herself. When, in the fall, she has company on this very roof, she chats and chats but no one understands a word of what she says.

ROSES FROM THE SOUTH Johann Strauss

Spring sheds on the world an ocean of blossoms, but most lovely of all, the queen of flowers, the red rose. Her sweet fragrance fills the air bringing joy and happiness to open hearts. Rose season, no season can compare with it for it turns the whole world into heaven.

♦ ♦ ♦

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Programme (continued from Page 7)

a woman from Locri has created other songs—her name is Nassi—Go now! . . . Go! . . .

Felicita: In the night wind perfumed with roses, I enjoyed an hour which will never again return. To possess such moments is felicity.

Melodia: We shall walk through the forest you and I. We shall see the moon, you and I—but there is one thing which I cannot explain about the moon which shines on the river. Ah me! It is as inexplicable as the sound of the whistle of the train down there which races to the city—to the city where the moon becomes blurred and lost through the street lights.

VI

CANCIONES ESPANOLAS De Falla

El pano moruno: The merchant is very sad today. Dust has fallen on a valuable bolt of cloth, creating a spot that cannot be removed. No wonder he is sad, for the cloth has lost its original value and he must sell it at a loss. What grieves him more is the way women rush to take advantage of a bargain.

Asturiana: That I might rest and comfort find, I leaned against the green-boughed pine, and when I wept, because of me, tears were shed by the green pine tree.

Jota: Some say we do not love each other, conversing of love they never do us find, but oh! if they did only know what's in our hearts, yours and mine. And now I must say farewell. From the window I see you yearn, and even though your mother does not look upon me with favor, well,—what care I for her, tomorrow I will return.

Seguidilla Murciana: People who live in glass houses should not throw stones at their neighbors, because they might find themselves in the same position some day. You are as inconsistent as counterfeit money, which passes from hand to hand, and all I want to do is, forget you!

♦ ♦ ♦

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